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1. ON 22 NOVEMBER 1972 JUDGE TRANG SI T A N, CAPITAL NATIONAL POLICE COMMANDER, ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POLICE SPECIAL BRANCH (SB) CHIEFS IN SAIGON AND GIA DINH TO REVIEW THE CHARGES AGAINST ALL VIET CONG (VC) PRISONERS ARRESTED AND PROSECUTED BY THE SB TO ENSURE THAT THE VC PRISONERS ARE PROSECUTED ON CRIMINAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL CHARGES IN ORDER THAT THEY WILL NOT BE RELEASED AS A RESULT OF THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT.

2.

[REDACTED] OF 5 DECEMBER 1972 REPORTED THAT IN LATE NOVEMBER [REDACTED] PROVINCE CHIEF COLONEL NGUYEN HOP D O A N ISSUED ORDERS THAT ALL VC PRISONERS IN THE PROVINCE ARE TO BE CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL OFFENSES. DOAN'S ORDERS WERE THE RESULT OF SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS ON A NATIONWIDE BASIS GIVEN BY A MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIAL AT A 19 NOVEMBER MEETING IN SAIGON, ATTENDED BY DOAN'S DEPUTY FOR SECURITY AND THE DALAT CITY CHIEF OF SECURITY.)

3. TUYEN DUC PROVINCE SB CHIEF CAPTAIN TRUNG CONG A N SAID ON 1 DECEMBER THAT, AT A LATE NOVEMBER MEETING IN SAIGON, THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DIRECTED PROVINCE CHIEFS TO CHARGE VC INFRASTRUCTURE (VCI) CADRE WITH CRIMINAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL OFFENSES TO ENSURE THAT THE VCI ARE NOT RELEASED FROM PRISON BY

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A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT. THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIAL SAID THAT HIGH AND MEDIUM LEVEL VCI CADRE ARE THE PRIMARY SUBJECTS FOR RETENTION AFTER A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT; THEREFORE, CRIMINAL CHARGES, EITHER FACTUAL OR IMPUTED, ARE TO BE FILED IMMEDIATELY UPON THEIR ARREST. THE MINISTRY OFFICIAL REMINDED THE GROUP THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO EXPLOIT THE VCI CADRE FOR POLITICAL AND OTHER INFORMATION. THE MINISTRY OFFICIAL DIRECTED THE PROVINCE CHIEFS TO ISSUE ORDERS TO SB CHIEFS NOT TO ARREST LOW LEVEL OR SUSPECTED VCI CADRE IN ORDER NOT TO OVERLOAD THE CRIMINAL COURTS.

4. ALTHOUGH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ALSO DECLARED THAT THE PROVINCE SECURITY COMMITTEES (PSC) WERE TO CEASE FUNCTIONING ON 1 DECEMBER. THE THUA THIEN PROVINCE PSC IS BEING MAINTAINED TEMPORARILY TO ASSIST IN ARRANGING CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS. IN THUA THIEN PROVINCE, VCI CADRE AT EVERY LEVEL WILL CONTINUE TO BE ARRESTED. ADDITIONALLY, THE THUA THIEN INTERROGATION SECTION IS BEGINNING TO SEEK WAYS OF CHARGING VC WITH CRIMINAL OFFENSES.

5. EMBASSY (AMBASSADOR BUNKER, DEPUTY AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE, MINISTER COUNSELOR POLITICAL ONLY) MACV (GENERAL WEYAND, MAJOR GENERAL GODDING ONLY) AT SAIGON: SENT

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